

SUMO

SUMO, a form of wrestling, is the national sport of Japan. There is only one professional Sumo organization in the country, the Nippon Sumo Kyokai. It has about 500 members, each of who belongs to a Sumo house, often called a "stable". Professional wrestlers are called RIKISHI. At each tournament "BASHO" the wrestlers are divided into two teams, East (HIGASHI) and West (NISHI). Sumo wrestlers are ranked by two grades, Senior (MAKUNO-UCHI) and Junior (Maku-shita). The highest position in the senior division is Grand Champion (YOKOZUNA). Then come Ozeki, Sekiwake, Komusubi, and Maegashira, the lowest rank in the senior division.

The Sumo association holds Grand Sumo Tournaments six times a year in Tokyo, Osaka, Nagoya and Fukuoka. Tournaments are held in Tokyo during January, May and September. Each tournament lasts 15 days.

Kokugikan Hall, where the Tokyo sumo tournaments are held, is located next to Ryogoku Station on the Sobu Line. The matches begin in the morning, with the lowest ranked junior wrestlers. The big show starts after 3:00 p.m., when the higher ranked senior players begin their matches. Feel free to take pictures. On the first floor of the Kokugikan Hall there is a Sumo Museum. During the tournaments, persons with tickets to the arena may enter the museum free of charge.

PRICES

For the most up to date ticket information call: 03-3622-1100/3300
Sumo Association: 03-3623-5111

Masu Seki: (This is a tatami seat and you must purchase four seats together)
A: ¥45,200, B: ¥41,200, C: ¥36,800 for 4 persons (Reservation required)

Chair Seat: A: ¥8,200, B: ¥4,900, C: ¥3,900 per person (Reservation required)

Bench Seat: ¥2,100 per person (unreserved seat; sold only on the day of event)

HOW TO GET THERE:

From Yokosuka

1. Go to YOKOSUKA CHUO 横須賀中央 Station and buy a ¥950 transfer ticket for RYOGOKU 両国 Station on TOEI OEDO Line 都営大江戸線 in Tokyo. This ticket is good for the entire trip to RYOGOKU 両国. Don't lose your ticket.
2. Take a GREEN or RED KANJI train to SHINAGAWA 品川. (If you take a GREEN KANJI train, exit at SHINAGAWA station but stay on that platform. Take any of the next train to DAIMON 大門 Station. If you take a RED KANJI train ride it from YOKOSUKA CHUO to DAIMON 大門 Station). DAIMON is 3 stops after SHINAGAWA.
3. At DAIMON Station, transfer to TOEI OEDO Line 都営大江戸線. Go to track #3 bound for MONZEN-NAKACHO/RYOGOKU.
4. To exit the station, take exit A-3. The large green and cream colored building is the KOKUGIKAN 国技館. (Behind the EDO TOKYO MUSEUM)

From Ikego:

1. Go to JIMMUJI 神武寺 Station and buy a ¥880 transfer ticket for RYOGOKU 両国 on the TOEI OEDO Line 都営大江戸線 in Tokyo. This ticket is good for the entire trip to RYOGOKU 両国. Don't lose your ticket.
2. Take a train to KANAZAWA BUNKO 金沢文庫, and then transfer to a GREEN or RED KANJI train to SHINAGAWA 品川 station. (If you take a GREEN KANJI train, exit at SHINAGAWA station but stay on that platform. Take any of the next train to DAIMON 大門 Station. If you take a RED KANJI train ride it from YOKOSUKA CHUO to DAIMON 大門 Station). DAIMON is 3 stops after SHINAGAWA.
3. **Continue with above #3.**

RETURN:

To Yokosuka

1. Go to RYOGOKU Station on TOEI OEDO Line and buy a ¥950 transfer ticket to YOKOSUKA CHUO Station on KEIKYU Line. This ticket is good for your entire trip.
2. Take TOEI OEDO Line from track #2 bound for ROPPONGI/SHINJYUKU to DAIMON Station.
3. At DAIMON Station, transfer to TOEI ASAKUSA/KEIKYU Line from track #1.
4. Wait for RED KANJI train (RED KANJI trains run about every 20 minutes).
5. Take a RED KANJI train all the way to YOKOSUKA CHUO Station.

To Ikego

1. Go to RYOGOKU Station on TOEI OEDO Line and buy a ¥880 transfer ticket to JIMMUJI Station on KEIKYU Line. This ticket is good for your entire trip.
2. Take TOEI OEDO Line from track #2 bound for ROPPONGI/SHINJYUKU to DAIMON Station.
3. At DAIMON Station, transfer to TOEI ASAKUSA/KEIKYU Line from track #1.
4. Wait for RED KANJI train (RED KANJI trains run about every 20 minutes).
5. Take a RED KANJI train all the way to KANAZAWA HAKKEI 金沢八景 Station.
6. Get off at KANAZAWA HAKKEI Station and change train bound for SHIN-ZUSHI 新逗子 and get off at JIMMUJI 神武寺 Station.